United Nations CTOC/COP/WG.9/2018/2

Conference of the Parties to the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime

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Meeting for the purpose of defining the specific procedures and rules for the functioning of the review mechanism for the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime and the Protocols thereto
Vienna, 21–23 March 2018

Report on the meeting for the purpose of defining the specific procedures and rules for the functioning of the review mechanism for the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime and the Protocols thereto, held in Vienna from 21 to 23 March 2018

I. Introduction

1. In its resolution 8/2, entitled "Mechanism for the review of the implementation of the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime and the Protocols thereto", the Conference of the Parties to the Organized Crime Convention decided to continue the process of establishing the mechanism for the review of the implementation of the Convention and the Protocols thereto based on the recommendations contained in the report on the intergovernmental meeting to explore all options regarding an appropriate and effective review mechanism for the Convention and the Protocols thereto, held in Vienna on 6 and 7 June 2016.

2. In the same resolution, the Conference decided to elaborate specific procedures and rules for the functioning of the review mechanism for consideration and adoption by the Conference at its ninth session, which were to be guided by the principles and characteristics set out in Conference resolution 5/5, and decided to include certain elements in those specific procedures and rules.

3. Also in resolution 8/2, the Conference requested the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime to convene, within existing resources from the regular budget and without prejudice to other mandated activities, at least one open-ended intergovernmental meeting, with interpretation, for the purpose of defining the specific procedures and rules for the functioning of the review mechanism, and invited States parties to remain engaged in the process, including during the intersessional period.

4. The first and second open-ended intergovernmental meetings for the purpose of defining the specific procedures and rules for the functioning of the review mechanism for the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime and the Protocols thereto were held in Vienna from 24 to 26 April and from 30 October to 1 November 2017, respectively. At its meeting held on

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22 January 2018, the extended Bureau of the Conference agreed that the third open-ended intergovernmental meeting would be held from 21 to 23 March 2018.

II. Organization of the meeting

A. Opening of the meeting

5. The open-ended intergovernmental meeting for the purpose of defining the specific procedures and rules for the functioning of the review mechanism for the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime and the Protocols thereto was opened on 21 March and held a total of five meetings. The meetings were chaired by Pilar Saborío de Rocafort (Costa Rica), President of the Conference at its eighth session.

B. Organization of work

6. At its 1st, 2nd, 3rd, 4th and 5th meetings, held from 21 to 23 March 2018, the open-ended intergovernmental meeting discussed item 2 of the agenda, entitled "Consideration of the draft procedures and rules for a review mechanism based on the elements contained in resolution 8/2".

7. The open-ended intergovernmental meeting discussed in detail the draft for the procedures and rules for a review mechanism. It was agreed that, as an outcome of the meeting, the draft would be circulated among delegations as a non-paper for further consideration during informal consultations in the lead-up to the ninth session of the Conference. The President stated that such informal consultations would be convened by her in the coming months and conducted with the assistance of other States parties.

8. The President invited States parties to provide written comments on the draft through the Secretariat by 23 April 2018.

C. Statements

9. Under agenda item 2, statements were made by representatives of the following parties to the Convention: Algeria, Argentina, Australia, Brazil, Bulgaria, Canada, Chile, China, Colombia, Costa Rica, Egypt, European Union, France, Germany, Guatemala, Holy See, Indonesia, Iraq, Israel, Italy, Japan. Mexico, Namibia, Nigeria, Norway, Pakistan, Peru, Romania, Russian Federation, Singapore, South Africa, State of Palestine, Sweden, Switzerland, Thailand, Turkey, United Arab Emirates, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United States of America, Uruguay and Viet Nam.

10. A statement was made by the observer for the Islamic Republic of Iran, a signatory State.

D. Adoption of the agenda and organization of work

11. At its first meeting, on 21 March 2018, the meeting adopted the following agenda:

1. Organizational matters:
   (a) Opening of the meeting;
   (b) Adoption of the agenda and organization of work.
2. Consideration of the draft of procedures and rules for a review mechanism based on the elements contained in resolution 8/2.

3. Other matters.

4. Adoption of the report.

E. Attendance

12. The following parties to the Convention were represented at the meeting: Algeria, Angola, Argentina, Armenia, Australia, Austria, Bahrain, Belgium, Bolivia (Plurinational State of), Brazil, Bulgaria, Burkina Faso, Canada, Chile, China, Colombia, Costa Rica, Côte d'Ivoire, Cyprus, Czechia, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Egypt, El Salvador, European Union, Finland, France, Georgia, Germany, Greece, Guatemala, Holy See, Hungary, Indonesia, Iraq, Israel, Italy, Japan, Jordan, Kenya, Kuwait, Lebanon, Madagascar, Malaysia, Malta, Mexico, Morocco, Namibia, Nepal, Netherlands, New Zealand, Nigeria, Norway, Oman, Pakistan, Panama, Peru, Philippines, Poland, Portugal, Qatar, Republic of Korea, Romania, Russian Federation, San Marino, Singapore, Slovakia, South Africa, Spain, State of Palestine, Sweden, Switzerland, Thailand, Tunisia, Turkey, United Arab Emirates, United Kingdom, United States, Uruguay, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of), Viet Nam and Yemen.

13. The Islamic Republic of Iran, a State signatory to the Convention, was represented by an observer.

14. A list of participants is contained in document CTOC/COP/WG.9/2018/INF/1/Rev.1.

F. Documentation

15. The meeting had before it the following:

(a) Annotated provisional agenda (CTOC/COP/WG.9/2018/1);

(b) Outcome of the discussions of the second meeting for the purpose of defining the specific procedures and rules for the functioning of the review mechanism for the Organized Crime Convention and the Protocols thereto, held in Vienna from 30 October to 1 November 2017 (CTOC/COP/WG.9/2018/CRP.1);

(c) Proposal of the Chair concerning former sections VIII and IX (CTOC/COP/WG.9/2017/CRP.3).

III. Adoption of the report

16. On 23 March 2018, the meeting adopted the present report.